Message Text

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R 031523Z FEB 77
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5303
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PGOV GE GW

SUBJECT: GDR AIDE MEMOIRE ATTACKING FRG PERMANENT REPRESENTATION IN EAST BERLIN

REF: BERLIN 5186

BEGIN SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO FRG REPORT IN BONN GROUP, THE GDR AIDE MEMOIRE OF JANUARY 27 REITERATED THE SERIOUS CHARGES THE GDR HAS MADE RECENTLY AGAINST THE FRG PERMANENT REPRESENTATION IN EAST BERLIN. FRG REPLY WILL REFLECT IDEA THAT PROGRESS IN INNER-GERMAN RELATIONS CANNOT BE BLOCKED IN SOME AREAS, SUCH AS HUMAN CONTACTS, AND BE EXPECTED TO MOVE FORWARD IN OTHER AREAS, SUCH AS ECONOMICS. END SUMMARY.

1. IN FEBRUARY 1 BONN GROUP MEETING, FRG REP (HENZE) BRIEFED ALLIED REPS ON THE CONTENTS OF THE GDR AIDE CONFIDENTIAL

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MEMOIRE OF JANUARY 27 CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF FRG PERMANENT REPRESENTATION IN EAST BERLIN. NOTING THAT HE HAD JUST COME FROM A MEETING IN THE CHANCELLERY WHERE THE FRG ANSWER WAS BEING DISCUSSED, HENZE SAID THAT THE GDR AIDE MEMOIRE REPEATED THE SERIOUS ATTACKS ON THE FRG MISSION WHICH THE GDR HAD PREVIOUSLY MADE.

- 2. INTER ALIA, THE GDR PAPER MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:
- -- THE FRG MISSION IN EAST BERLIN CAN ONLY REPRESENT THE INTERESTS OF FRG CITIZENS.
- -- TO SERVE AS ADVOCATE FOR THE WISHES OF GDR CITIZENS WOULD BE A "FAR-REACHING" INTERFERENCE INTO GDR AFFAIRS.
- -- THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE 1963 REGULATION REQUIRING PERMISSION FOR GDR CITIZENS TO VISIT FOREIGN MISSIONS HAD BEEN NECESSARY BECAUSE THE FRG MISSION HAD INTERFERED IN GDR INTERNAL AFFAIRS.
- -- GDR/FRG RELATIONS CAN ONLY DEVELOP ON THE BASIS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AND THE PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE, AS RECOGNIZED IN THE FRG-GDR BASIC TREATY AND THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT.
- -- FINALLY, THE GDR ATTACKED THE IDEA THAT A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP EXISTED BETWEEN THE TWO STATES AND THE "UNTENABLE" FRG POSITION ON GERMAN CITIZENSHIP, DESCRIBING BOTH AS VIOLATIONS OF GDR SOVEREIGNTY.
- 3. HENZE SAID THAT THE FOREIGN OFFICE REGARDED THE STATEMENT SERIOUSLY PARTICULARLY BECAUSE IT GOES BACK OVER GROUND WHICH HAS ALREADY BEEN COVERED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF FRG/GDR RELATIONS. HE ADDED THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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FRG MISSION HAS WORKED FOR TWO YEARS ON FAMILY
REUNIFICATION MATTERS IN A QUIET WAY WITHOUT RECEIVING
ANY COMPLAINTS THE GDR. THE MISSION HAS
BEEN VERY CAREFUL TO OPERATE IN A NORMAL WAY, GIVING
ADVICE ONLY WHEN REQUESTED IN LINE WITH GDR LEGISLATION.

- 4. SPECULATING ON THE MOTIVES FOR RECENT GDR ACTIONS, HENZE SAID GDR BEHAVIOR REFLECTED DISAPPOINTMENT WITH THEIR "WESTPOLITIK." CONTRARY TO THEIR EXPECTATIONS, THE BASIC TREATY AND THE CSCE FINAL ACT HAVE NOT SOLVED THE GDR'S "GERMAN PROBLEM." THE FRG REAFFIRMED ITS POLICY OF REUNIFICATION IN THE LETTER ON GERMAN UNITY WHICH ACCOMPANIED THE BASIC TREATY, AND THE PEACEFUL CHANGE PROVISIONS OF CSCE LEFT THE POSSIBILITY OPEN.
- 5. AT THE SAME TIME, HENZE CONTINUED, THE GDR'S WESTPOLITIK HAS BROUGHT ABOUT MORE HUMAN CONTACTS CONFIDENTIAL

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LEADING TO UNREST IN THE GDR. THE GDR MAY THUS HAVE DECIDED IT WAS NECESSARY TO TIGHTEN ITS GRIP ON ITS OWN POPULATION TO REINFORCE ABGRENZUNG. IN THAT SENSE, GDR WESTPOLITIK HAS BROUGHT ABOUT UNEXPECTED RESULTS. THE GDR WANTS TO DEMONSTRATE BOTH TO ITS OWN POPULATION AND TO THE FRG NOT TO EXPECT TOO MUCH.

6. HENZE CONCLUDED THAT HONECKER AND STOPH STILL SAY THEY WANT TO IMPROVE RELATIONS BUT THEY APPARENTLY ONLY WANT TO DO SO IN SOME FIELDS, MAINLY ECONOMICS NOT HUMAN CONTACTS. BUT IF THE GDR WANTS TO BLOCK PROGRESS IN SOME AREAS, IT CANNOT EXPECT PROGRESS IN OTHERS. HENZE SAID THAT THE FRG HAS NOT YET DRAFTED A RESPONSE TO THE GDR AIDE MEMOIRE, BUT THE ANSWER WILL CERTAINLY REFLECT THAT FINAL POINT.

7. COMMENT: ABOVE WAS DRAFTED BEFORE RECEIPT OF
BERLIN 5212. HENZE'S ACCOUNT IS GENERALLY CONSISTENT
WITH THAT PROVIDED BY GAUS, ALTHOUGH HENZE DID NOT
MENTION THE NIER REMARKS REPORTED IN PARA 2, BERLIN
5212.

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